

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated July 1, 2004. Claims 1 to 52 are now pending in the application, with Claims 47 to 52 having been added. Claims 1, 11, 21, 26, 31, 35, 39, 43, 47, 49 and 51 are the independent claims herein. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

The abstract was objected to for an informality. A new abstract has been provided for as recited above. Withdrawal of the objection to the abstract is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 46 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,308,205 (Carcerano). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

The present invention concerns displaying a list of devices based on designated information. By way of example, it can be assumed that “product name”, “installation location”, and “network address” are three types of device information that could be displayed on listing of devices. In this case, it is possible for a user to designate any combination of one or more of the foregoing for display. However, the user can also designate the type of information that is to be used as a display criteria for displaying the listing on the display when plural devices are included on the list, whereby the designated criteria information is displayed even if it was not designated as a type of information to be included in the list. For instance, considering the above three types of information, if the user designates only “installation location” and “network address” as the types of information to be displayed in the listing, but “product name” is designated as the display criteria, the “product name”, “installation location”, and “network address” are all

displayed on the listing. (See for example, Fig. 8, in which “product name” is designated as a first designation, and “network I/F Board Name”, “Location”, “Network Address”, and “MAC Address” are designated as display criteria in a second designation).

With specific reference to the claims, amended independent Claim 1 is a network managing method providing a device list with which device information with regard to a plurality of devices is arranged in order and displayed for every device, comprising a first designating step of designating a type of at least one device information to be displayed in the device list, from among a plurality of types of predetermined device information capable of being displayed in the device list, a second designating step of designating a type of the device information to be used as display criteria in the case where a plurality of devices are arranged in order in the device list, and a control step wherein the device information of the type designated in the second designating step is controlled to be displayed in the device list, in spite of the type of information being designated by the second designating step not being included in the type of information designated in the first designating step.

Amended independent Claims 11, 21 and 26 are apparatus, computer program and computer-medium claims, respectively, that substantially correspond to Claim 1.

Amended independent Claim 31 includes features along the lines of Claim 1, but more specifically is directed to a providing method of providing a data list that displays data with regard to a plurality of records arranged in order for every record, comprising the steps of a first designating step of designating at least one data type to be displayed in the data list, from among a plurality of predetermined data types capable of being displayed in the data list, a second designating step of designating a data type to be

used as display criteria in the case where a plurality of records are arranged in the data list, and a control step of controlling data of the type designated in the second designating step to be displayed in the data list, in spite of the type of information designated in the second designating step not being included in the type of information designated in the first designating step.

Amended independent Claims 33, 39 and 43 are apparatus, computer program and computer-medium claims, respectively, that substantially correspond to Claim 31.

Newly-added independent Claim 47 also includes features along the lines of Claim 1, but more specifically is directed to a network managing method which provides a device list with which device information with regard to a plurality of devices is arranged and displayed for each device, comprising the steps of a first designating step of designating a type of device information to be displayed in the device list, a display control step of controlling to display, on the device list, the device information based on the type of device information designated in first designating step, and a second designating step of designating a type of the device information to be used as display criteria in the case where the plurality of devices are arranged on the device list, wherein, even when the type of device information designated in second designating step is not designated in first designating step, display control step is adapted to control so that the device information based on the type designated in second designating step is displayed on the device list.

Newly-added independent Claims 49 and 51 are apparatus and computer-medium claims, respectively, that substantially correspond to Claim 47.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of the present invention, and in particular is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature

of, even when the type of device information designated in second designating step as display criteria is not designated is a first designating step that designates at least one type of device information to be displayed, controlling a display so that the device information based on the type designated in second designating step is displayed on the device list.

Carcerano is merely seen to disclose that a device list for plural devices is displayed on a display (Fig. 6). However, in Carcerano, a type of the device information (e.g., “printers”, “location”, “model”, “status”, etc. in Fig.6) to be displayed on the device list is displayed based on the information obtained by the network server. That is, the network server simply obtains all of the device information from the device and displays all of the obtained information on the display. As a result, the user is inundated with unnecessary information. Moreover, the user is not able to designate which types of the device information is to be displayed, nor is the user able to designate a type of device information to be used as display criteria. Accordingly, Carcerano is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of, even when the type of device information designated in second designating step as display criteria is not designated is a first designating step that designates at least one type of device information to be displayed, controlling a display so that the device information based on the type designated in second designating step is displayed on the device list.

In view of the foregoing, all of Claims 1 to 52 are believed to be allowable over Carcerano.

As a formal matter, Applicant notes that, while the Examiner has acknowledged Applicant’s Claim To Priority, the Office Action did not include and indication that the certified copy of the priority document has been received. Therefore,

Applicant respectfully requests that the next action include an indication acknowledging receipt of the certified copy of the priority document.

No other matters having been raised, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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